



Welcome to the March edition of the Mitchell e-newsletter

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Congratulations to [Premier, the Hon Mike Baird MP](#) and his team on his election on Saturday. They have worked hard for the past 18 months, in particular, I congratulate [Ray Williams MP, State Member for Castle Hill](#) and [David Elliott MP, State Member for Baulkham Hills](#) on their re-election. Finally, I congratulate the newly elected [State Member for Seven Hills, Mark Taylor](#) on a well-deserved win. I look forward to working together with our local State Members to continue delivering better infrastructure, enhance local job creation and to reduce the cost of living for families in Mitchell.

Last week, the Federal Parliament passed the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2014 . The Bill ensures that our security and law enforcement agencies will continue to have access to the information they need to do their jobs. At the same time, the Bill contains safeguards to protect our rights and liberties. For further details click [here](#).

In the lead up to ANZAC Day the [Centenary of ANZAC Hills Community Committee](#) has established a program of events for the Centenary of ANZAC commemorations. Further details of these events are included within this edition.

I would also like to wish you and your family a happy Easter.
Regards,
Alex

PS: Parliament has seen some very important issues debated, some updates:

[Telecommunications \(Interception and Access\) Amendment \(Data Retention\) Bill 2014](#)
[Question to Assistant Treasurer – Intergenerational Report 2015](#)
[Clean Up Australia Day 2015](#)
[International Women's Day 2015](#)

A Better Deal for ADF Pay

The Australian Government has listened to the concerns of the defence community and [increased the pay](#) for Australian Defence Force personnel to two per cent per annum, over the life of the agreement. This decision is appropriate, affordable and strikes the right balance as the aspects of Australian Defence Force service to our nation by those in uniform and the families who support them.

Red Tape Reduction: Third Repeal Day



On the Coalition Government's [third Repeal Day](#), 18 March 2015, a further \$305 million in red tape reduction decisions to ease the burden on Australian businesses, community organisations, families and individuals.

We have made decisions designed to decrease the \$65 billion regulatory cost burden by \$2.45 billion. Click [here](#) for further information. I want to hear from my local businesses, community organisations, families on individuals on how the Government can help cut even further red tape in our electorate to build a strong and prosperous local economy in Mitchell.

Community Heritage Grants – Applications close on 1 May 2015

The [2015 Community Heritage Grant](#) round is now [open](#). The Community Heritage Grants (CHG) program provides grants of up to \$15,000 to community organisations such as libraries, archives, museums, genealogical and historical societies, multicultural and Indigenous groups. **Applications close on Friday, 1 May 2015.** For further details visit www.nla.gov.au

Heritage Park and unveiling of Warren Bowden commemorative plaque



(Mrs Olive Bowden and Cllr Andrew Jefferies, Mayor, The Hills Shire Council)

It was with immense pleasure to attend the Opening of the reconstructed Asylum and the unveiling of the Warren Bowden commemorative plaque on Sunday, 1 March 2015. The late [Warren Bowden](#) was the driving force in securing the preservation of our convict history at Castle Hill Heritage Park. Thanks to Warren and his love for the Hills and for heritage, future generations are able to enjoy and appreciate our past. I also want to thank the dedicated volunteers from Rotary Club of Castle Hill, [The Hills District Historical Society](#) and the Castle Hill Heritage 355 Committee for their commitment to the preservation of our convict heritage for future generations.

Launch of the Lisa Harnum Foundation



It was a real privilege to [officially launch](#) the [Lisa Harnum Foundation](#) earlier this month at Castle Hill. The Lisa Harnum Foundation has been established in honour and memory of the life of Lisa who was thrown to her death from the balcony of her apartment in July 2011. This was the horrific and tragic case that gripped Sydney and Australia and graphically showed to so many what an abusive relationship can be like. This type of innovative, specialist service is what is vitally needed in our community to address what is truly a domestic violence epidemic. I thank the founders, Aileen Mountfield and Linsey Fitzgibbins for their vision, passion and drive in establishing the Lisa Harnum Foundation as it is fulfilling a vital need in the Hills District and will help families and individuals bring into the 'light' what is hidden and unspoken – domestic violence.

Former US Treasurer Rosario Marin Visits Canberra



It was a great privilege to welcome to Canberra the former Treasurer of the United States of America, [Rosario Marin](#) who was appointed the [41st Treasurer of the US](#) by President George W Bush. Ms Marin met with the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP and the Speaker of

with the Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott MP and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP during her visit to Parliament House.

2015 - Commemorating 100 years of ANZAC



During the month of April there will be a variety of commemorations and events held throughout the Mitchell electorate to commemorate 100 years of ANZAC. From the formation of ANZAC at Gallipoli to present day, in all theatres of war and peace, this milestone year is significant in our nation's history.

Locally, the Centenary of ANZAC Hills Community Committee has established a program of events for the Centenary of ANZAC commemorations. Please visit www.hillsanzaccenary.com.au for information on local events being held during April 2015.

This ANZAC Day we remember more than a century of service and sacrifice by the men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation – in defence of our values and freedoms.

Events and Local Services in Mitchell:

Saturday 18 April

10:00am – Launch of The Hills Centenary of Anzac Week
Celebrations by HE General David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales
Bella Vista Farm
Elizabeth Macarthur Drive, Bella Vista

Sunday 19 April

8.45am – [Castle Hill RSL Sub-Branch](#) Sunday Parade,
Commemorative Service
Address by Major General Paul Symon OAM
Centenary of Anzac Reserve
Wrights Road, Castle Hill (Opp Kellyville Plaza)

Monday 20 April

6:00pm – Centenary of ANZAC Carillion recital and 1812 overture
by Castle Hill RSL Youth Orchestra
Bella Vista Farm, Bella Vista Farm
Elizabeth Macarthur Drive, Bella Vista

Saturday 25 April

6.00am – [Castle Hill RSL Sub-Branch](#) ANZAC Day Dawn Service
Address by Brigadier Phillin Bridie AM

Veterans assemble to march at 5.45am
Centenary of ANZAC Reserve
Wrights Road, Castle Hill (Opp Kellyville Plaza)

TRANSPORT for Anzac Day dawn Service:

- There will be free shuttle buses from Castle Hill Showground and Rouse Hill Town Centre to Dawn Service at the Centenary of Anzac Reserve, Wrights Rd, Castle Hill.
- The Hillsbus shuttle buses will start at 4.15am and run continuously with additional pick-up stops at the Samantha Reilly Drive T-Way stop and Merriville (park at the Ettamogah).
- Parking at Kellyville Plaza, Aldi car park, the vacant land opposite Centenary of ANZAC Reserve off Harrington Road, William Clarke College and at the Castle Hill TAFE car park off Green Rd which is a short walk to the Centenary of Anzac Reserve.

11:00am – [Annangrove Progress Association](#) ANZAC Day Service followed by lunch
Annangrove Park War Memorial –
Cnr Currie Avenue & Annangrove Road, Annangrove

12.00pm – [The Hills Club](#) ANZAC Day Commemoration Luncheon.
1pm - Wreath Laying Ceremony
2 Jenner Street, Baulkham Hills

Australian Gridiron Team Selection



Congratulations to Jack Marton on his selection to the Australian Outback National Gridiron Team by Gridiron Australia Limited. Jack will be representing Australia at the 2015 IFAF World Championship of American Football on 9-18 July 2015, in Canton, Ohio, United States of America.

For further information or to sponsor Jack and his team please contact him on g.marton@optusnet.com.au.

Hills Relay for Life – 16-17 May, 2015





[Hills Relay for Life](#) is being held on **May 16-17 at Centenary of Anzac Reserve, Castle Hill**. In its 14th year Hills Relay for Life has raised more than \$2 million towards the fight against cancer. Cancer is an insidious disease and has touched most families whether directly or indirectly. The Hills Relay for Life is a great event that brings the community together to make a difference in the lives of future generations.

For further information go to www.hillsrelayforlife.com.

Clean Up Australia Day



[Clean Up Australia Day](#) held on Sunday, 1st March was a great opportunity for the community to come together and clean up [Third Settlement Reserve, Winston Hills](#). Thank you to the many volunteers who gave of their time and worked hard in cleaning up Third Settlement Reserve.

Representing the communities of Baulkham Hills, Beaumont Hills, Bella Vista, Box Hill, Castle Hill, Kellyville, Maraylya, Nelson, Northmead, North Rocks, Rouse Hill, West Pennant Hills and Winston Hills

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